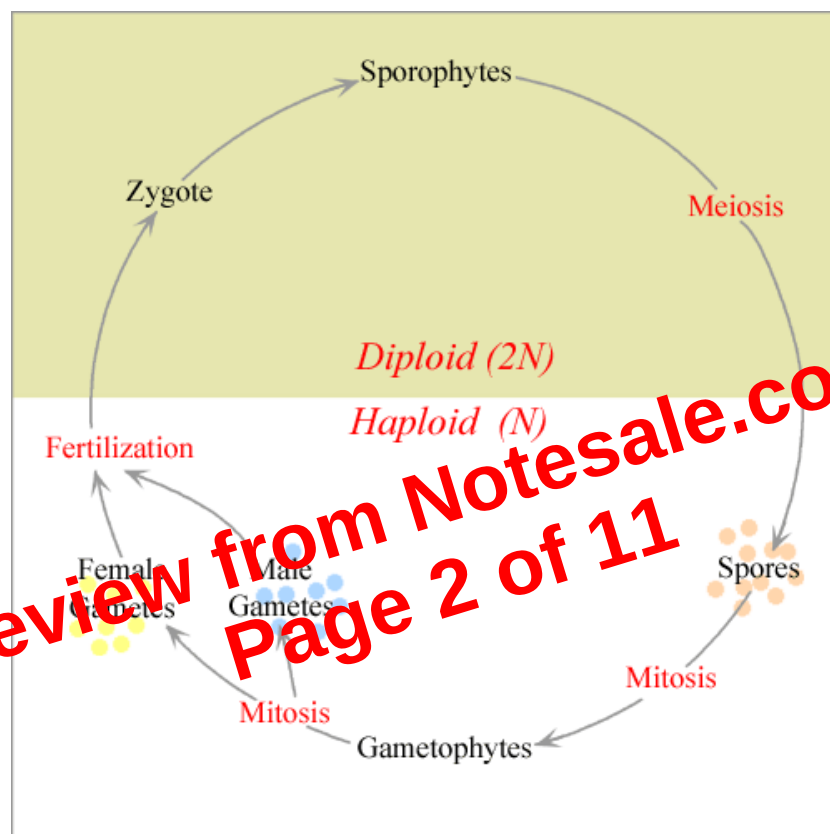


Alternation of generations

- ♥ Haploid gametophyte generation – produces gametes (produces by mitosis since the parent plant is already in the haploid state).
- ♥ Diploid sporophyte generation – produces by male and female gametes which fuse to form a diploid zygote which grows by mitotic divisions into a sporophyte). The diploid sporophyte produces unicellular spores by meiosis, which in turn will give rise to the haploid gametophyte.



One is always more conspicuous and occupies a greater proportion of the life cycle; the dominant generation.

In the bryophytes the gametophyte generation is dominant.

In the other plant groups the sporophyte generation is dominant.

Phylum Bryophyta – the mosses

- ♥ They live in damp, shady environments and retain water to cope with the dryness of land.
- ♥ No vascular tissue